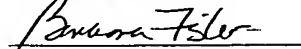


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JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 OCT 2005



Barbara Fisher  
Date: October 21, 2005

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of )  
)  
'LOHBECK, Wilhelmus Christianus Maria, et al. )  
)  
Int. Appln No.: PCT/EP2004/050548 )  
)  
Intl. Filing Date: 16 April 2004 )  
)  
EXPANDER SYSTEM FOR INCREMENTAL )  
EXPANSION OF A TUBULAR ELEMENT )

October 21, 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Box PCT (DO/EO/US)  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115**

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows:

Please replace the abstract with the following abstract: